

## Message Text

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41

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 DRC-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 EUR-25 NEA-14 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

/127 W

----- 079600

R 010556Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1013

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CDR JCRC NKP

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, LA

SUBJ: VISITS OF POW/MIA GROUPS

REF: A) CDR JCRC 271410Z SEP 74 (NOTAL)

B) VIENTIANE 7444

1. MISSION STRONGLY ENDORSES JCRC RECOMMENDATIONS PARAS  
6 AND 7 REFTEL A.

2. TO AVOID RECURRENCE OF UNFORTUNATE SITUATIONS SUCH AS  
THAT DESCRIBED REFTEL B, WE URGE THAT STATE, DEFENSE AND  
INDIVIDUAL SERVICES TACTFULLY BUT FIRMLY MAKE FOLLOWING  
POINTS TO POW/MIA RELATIVES PLANNING TRAVEL TO THIS AREA:

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A. THIS MISSION HAS WORKING FILES ON ONLY A SMALL

NUMBER OF LAOS POW/MIA CASES AND ONLY LIMITED INFORMATION ON OTHER PERSONNEL CARRIED AS POW/MIA IN LAOS OR ELSEWHERE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. FURTHERMORE, VIRTUALLY ALL OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE CLASSIFIED OR ADMINISTRATIVELY CONTROLLED, AND JCRC LIAISON OFFICER AT VIENTIANE HAS NO RPT NO AUTHORITY TO SHOW SUCH DOCUMENTS TO RELATIVES. CONSEQUENTLY, VISITS TO VIENTIANE FOR PURPOSE OF EXAMINING FILES ARE CLEARLY NOT RPT NOT APPROPRIATE.

B. GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN VIENTIANE AND NKP IS NOT RPT NOT NORMALLY AVAILABLE, AND ANY RPT ANY TRAVEL TO NKP IS UNDERSTOOD TO REQUIRE CLEARANCE BY EMBASSY BANGKOK. FURTHERMORE, COMMERCIAL AIR TRAVEL ON AT LEAST SOME ROUTES (E.G., BANGKOK TO VIENTIANE OR VICE-VERSA) WITHIN AREA IS LIMITED, SO THAT ANY DEVIATION FROM PREVIOUSLY BOOKED ITINERARIES MAY RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT DELAYS.

C. DRV EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE HAS CONSISTENTLY REFUSED TO ISSUE VISAS TO POW/MIA RELATIVES OR TO ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF POW/MIA CASES. CONSEQUENTLY, RELATIVES OF PERSONNEL CARRIED AS POW/MIA IN NORTH OR SOUTH VIETNAM ARE UNLIKELY TO DERIVE ANY SATISFACTION FROM VISIT TO VIENTIANE IF SOLE OR PRIMARY PURPOSE IS CONTACT WITH DRV REPRESENTATIVES.

3. AN ADDITIONAL FACTOR IS THAT, WITH RELEASE OF EMMET KAY, LPF REPRESENTATIVES IN VIENTIANE MAY BECOME LESS AMENABLE THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN PAST TO INTERVIEWS WITH POW/MIA RELATIVES. AT BEST, LPF REPS ARE LIKELY TO SAY THAT, WITH KAY'S RELEASE, NO AMERICANS REMAIN IN LPF CUSTODY AND MERELY TO TAKE FURTHER INQUIRIES UNDER ADVISEMENT.

4. NOTWITHSTANDING FOREGOING LIMITATIONS, THIS MISSION WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO ASSIST GROUPS CONCERNED WITH POW/MIA MATTERS, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH INCLUDE ACTUAL RELATIVES, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, MAXIMUM AWARENESS ON PART OF PROSPECTIVE TRAVELERS OF THESE LIMITATIONS SHOULD MAKE OUR TASK EASIER AND MAY PREVENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS SUCH AS THOSE WHICH BECAME EVIDENT WITH MOST RECENT GROUP.

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WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POW, MIA, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, MEETINGS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974VIENTI07548  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**From:** VIENTIANE  
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**Line Count:** 108  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION DPW  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) CDR JCRC 271410Z SEP 74 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISITS OF POW/MIA GROUPS  
**TAGS:** MOPS, LA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005